OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

STEPHEN W. DECOURCEY, CHAIR DIANE M. MAHON, VICE CHAIR JOHN V. HURD LENARD T. DIGGINS ERIC D. HELMUTH



730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE TELEPHONE 781-316-3020 781-316-3029 FAX

TOWN OF ARLINGTON MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

TO:

Laura Swan, Chair

Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM:

Lauren Costa

Administrative Assistant, Select Board Office

DATE:

September 28, 2021

RE:

Request for Crosswalk Across Summer Street at Newland Street

for Peirce Elementary

The Select Board at the meeting of September 27th referred the attached to you for your review and recommendations.

Thank you.

LC

Attachment

----Original Message----

From: Paul Easton <eastonpaul@yahoo.com>

To: damstutz@town.arlington.ma.us <damstutz@town.arlington.ma.us>;

wchouinard@town.arlington.ma.us <wchouinard@town.arlington.ma.us>; hmuise@verizon.net

<hmuise@verizon.net>; crateau@town.arlington.ma.us <crateau@town.arlington.ma.us>

Cc: Aura Obando <aura.obando@gmail.com>

Sent: Sat, Sep 11, 2021 9:37 am

Subject: request for crosswalk across Summer St. at Newland St. for Peirce Elementary

Dear members of the Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC),

We are writing to you as the members of the TAC with email addresses posted on the TAC's <u>website</u>. Our understanding from <u>publicly available materials</u> is that the TAC is charged with considering requests for new crosswalks in Arlington. We would appreciate if you would forward this request to the remaining TAC members, or else inform us of the proper procedure to submit a request for creation of a new crosswalk in Arlington.

We live at 133 Sunset Road and have two young children attending Peirce Elementary School and another that will enter Peirce in three years. As can be seen in the screenshot below, there are currently two crosswalks at each corner approach to Peirce with the exception of the northeast corner at the intersection of Summer and Newland Streets. As a result, the many young children (like ours) who attend Peirce and live north of Summer and east of Newland run across Summer Street (a busy artery through town) without a crosswalk twice a day when there is a break in traffic, at considerable risk to their safety. While these children could theoretically walk another block to the crosswalk at the intersection of Summer Street and Park Avenue Extension, I'm sure you can understand that, in virtually all instances, this does not happen - and this is not something that any of the children who walk to and from Peirce from other directions are required to do, as they have convenient crosswalks at each of the remaining approaches to the school.

We believe the addition of a crosswalk across Summer Street at Newland Street would be an inexpensive way for the town to lower the safety risks for many Arlington residents and help prevent a potential tragedy at some point in the future. We have spoken with many of our neighbors who have children attending Peirce and they all agree.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone or email.

Best regards, Paul Easton (919-672-8256) and Aura Obando (860-978-7680), at 133 Sunset Road

